PATENT

N THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

the the pplication of: VOGEL, et al.

SERIAL NO.: 09/833,452

FILED: APRIL 12, 2001

Dated: October 25, 2002

CASE NO.: AD6728 US NA

GROUP ART UNIT: 1773

EXAMINER: JACKSON, MONIQUE R

1700 MAIL ROOM

FOR: MULTILAYER, CO-EXTRUDED, ONOMERIC DECORATIVE SURFACING

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

By Office Action dated August 2, 2002, the above-referenced application has been made subject to a requirement to restrict. The Examiner has taken the position that Claims 1-21 and 43-53 (Invention Group I) are drawn to a multilayer composite, classified in class 428, subclass 515. Claims 22-32 (Invention Group II) are drawn to an injection molding method, classified in class 264, subclass 328. And, Claims 33-42 (Invention Group IV) are drawn to a thermoforming method, classified in class 264, subclass 313.

Applicants' attorney makes a provisional election without traverse to prosecute the Claims 1-21 and 43-53 (Invention Group I) and reserves the right to request prosecution of non-elected claims and examination of such claims on the merits in separate divisional, continuation, and continuation-in-part applications filed during the codependency of the above-referenced application. With respect to the request in paragraph 5 on page 3 of the Office Action concerning election of one species, Applicants elect the species embodied in Example 2 of the specification, which appears to correspond to examiner's classification A(i) and B(i) (consisting essentially of ionomer and ionomer).

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT B. STEVENSON

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS REGISTRATION NO. 26,039

TELEPHONE: 302-992-6824

FACSIMILE: 302-992-3257